

Cherokee Bluff Music Institute Instructor and Student Policies

Effective August 1st, 2018

ORGANIZATION

Organized by the Cherokee Bluff Band Association as a fundraiser, the Music Institute is set up to provide private instruction for students of Cherokee Bluff and those students zoned to attend Cherokee Bluff. We hold lessons on campus Monday through Thursday from 3:30pm to 9:00pm. The institute is designed to make quality instruction convenient and accessible in a comfortable learning environment.

MESSAGE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

The Cherokee Bluff Band program will be built on a tradition of excellence in both concert and marching band aspects. One area that will help us build strong Cherokee Bluff Bands will be private instruction. Private study on an instrument is the fastest way to attain individual improvement. It is only through private study that a professional will hear the student play on a weekly basis. Students will focus on fundamental skills that are particular to his or her instrument. These are aspects of development that cannot be offered in a full band setting.

By developing a command of the instrument, the student's enjoyment increases, and his or her desire to learn fuels future success. Instructors provide individualized assignments and feedback specific to the student's particular strengths and weaknesses. Private study develops a life-long love of music, places demands on individual discipline, and enhances self-esteem. Much attention can be given to preparing for auditions for District Honor Band, All-State, college admissions, and scholarships.

DISCLAIMER

The Cherokee Bluff Music Institute is designed to serve those students not currently studying privately. It is not designed to take students away from teachers not in the Cherokee Bluff Music Institute and should not be interpreted as a signal to change teachers. There are many fine teachers in the immediate area who offer comparable quality instruction.

LESSON FEES AND PAYMENTS

Lesson fees are set by CBBA at:

- \$32 per 30-minute lesson
- \$42 per 45-minute lesson
- \$52 per 60-minute lesson

Payments should be made one month in advance, payable to the CBBA (Cherokee Bluff Band Association). In the memo section of the check, please indicate: CBMI, student name, instructor name, and dates of lessons being paid.

Payments should be deposited in the CBBA drop box located in the Band Office, or be may be mailed to:

CBBA, 6603 Spout Springs Road, Flowery Branch, GA 30542, and Attn: CBBA.

Payments not received will result in the immediate cancellation of lessons and possible loss of scheduled time.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

In order to participate in the program, the student must be a member in good standing of the Cherokee Bluff Band (either CBHS or CBMS) or a student zoned to attend Cherokee Bluff. All lessons will follow the Hall County Schools student/teacher holiday schedule. Please visit www.hallco.org for the school calendar of days off. Lessons will be suspended the week of Thanksgiving, the two-week December Winter Break and Spring Break week.

ABSENCE FROM LESSONS:

Once assigned a lesson time, students are expected to attend. No show/No call is an unexcused absence for lessons. Unexcused lessons will only be made up at the digression of the teacher. A student that wishes to be excused from his/her lesson should contact the private lesson teacher at least 24hrs in advance. (Contacting a director does not excuse an absence from a lesson). It is important that students obtain their private teachers phone number and email so contact can be made easily. Students/Parents are responsible for making contact with their teacher in order to be granted an excused absence. Notice of school events should be given to your private lessons teacher. Your private teachers are not employees of Hall County Schools and are unaware of "special event" day/trips. Emergency situations on the day of the lesson will be the only excuse for failing to give the required 24hr notice. However, the teacher still must be notified. Failure to do so will result in your account being charged for the lesson.

MAKE-UP LESSONS

Students needing to cancel a lesson must notify the instructor directly at least 24 hours prior to the lesson. Students may reschedule missed lessons provided they notify the instructor at least 24 hours in advance and provide a valid reason for the absence. Students canceling lessons without advanced notice or who miss a lesson without notice will be charged for that lesson. Whether a make-up lesson is to be given, and the day, time, and method of providing the make-up will be left entirely to the discretion of the instructor. Instructors reserve the right to refuse make-ups to students with excessive absences.

ENROLLMENT

Students may sign up for lessons at any time, but are encouraged to do so early as all slots will fill quickly. Students should review all program guidelines with their parents and complete a Student Information Sheet (look for the CBMI table at Band Registration). Interested students will be contacted by each instructor or by a CBBA representative to schedule a lesson time.

COMMITMENT

Students and parents are asked to commit to the private lesson program for the entire school year. If you find it necessary to terminate lessons we ask that this be done at the semester break in writing.

LESSON DISCONTINUANCE

Students, parents, and instructors should be aware that private study takes patience and effort over a period of time before results are apparent. Students, however, may wish to discontinue lessons, and may do so at any time provided they give both the instructor and LBBA written notice of intent to discontinue at least two weeks before stopping and pay all fees through that two-week period. Failure to provide a two-week notice to the instructor will result in a \$30.00 discontinuance fee.